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Resumed substantive session of 1997
New York, 8 October - 5 December 1997
Item 1 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

General segment

6. Coordination, programme and other questions:

   (i) Proclamation of international years.

7. Reports, conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies:

   (b) Environmental questions: sustainable development;

   (d) Human rights questions.

12. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227.

Annotations

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

The Council will consider the selection of themes for the high-level and coordination segments of its substantive session of 1998.

The Council, in accordance with its resolution 1994/33 on the operational activities segment of the Economic and Social Council, will consider a principal theme or themes for consideration at the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment of the substantive session of 1998.

Elections

Elections will be held to fill vacancies from previously postponed elections.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the selection of a theme for the 1998 high-level segment of the Council (E/1997/92 and Add.1)

Note by the Secretary-General on the selection of a theme for the 1998 coordination segment of the Council (E/1997/91)

Note by the Secretary-General on elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments (E/1997/L.60)

Note by the Secretary-General on the appointment of members of the Committee for Development Planning (E/1997/L.22)

General segment

Item 6. Coordination, programme and other questions

(i) Proclamation of international years

The Council decided at its substantive session to postpone consideration of the draft resolution contained in document E/1997/L.32 to its resumed substantive session of 1997.

Documentation

Draft resolution submitted by the Russian Federation, entitled "Proclamation of international years" (E/1997/L.32)

Item 7. Reports, conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies

(b) Environmental questions: sustainable development

In its resolution 1997/63, the Council decided, inter alia, to decide, at its resumed substantive session, on the specific modalities for the period of transition of the Commission on Sustainable Development from the current arrangements to those outlined in paragraph 8 of the resolution.

In its resolution 1997/65, the Council decided, inter alia, that the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests would schedule its work programme, decide on the modalities of its work, including the election and designation of officers, and recommend to the Council the number, venue and duration of its substantive sessions.

At its resumed substantive session, the Council will consider the proposals made by the Forum at its first (organizational) session (1-3 October 1997) regarding the arrangements for future meetings of the Forum.

Documentation

Draft decision by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), on the programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development for the period 1998-2000 and future methods of work of the Commission (E/1997/L.61)

Report of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests on its first (organizational) session (E/1997/--)

(d) Human rights questions

At its 39th meeting, on 23 July 1997, the Council decided to defer consideration to its resumed substantive session of the draft decisions recommended for adoption by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its sixteenth session.

Documentation

Compendium of draft proposals from subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council requiring action by the Council or brought to its attention (E/1997/L.23 and Add.2)

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council on the administrative and programme budget implications of the draft decisions recommended for adoption by the Council in document E/1997/L.23 and Add.2 (E/1997/L.44)

Item 12. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227

At its fiftieth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 50/227 on further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields. As requested, at its substantive session of 1997 the Council had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the resolution.

At its substantive session of 1996, the Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive document compiling information on the mandates, composition, functions and working methods of the functional commissions and expert groups and bodies, and decided to begin consideration during its substantive session of 1997 of the role, working methods and relationship with other bodies of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Committee for Development Planning, the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development, and the Committee on Natural Resources. It also requested its President to establish arrangements for informal open-ended consultations during the Council's substantive session of 1997 in order to better prepare for further work of the Council on the issue (resolution 1996/41).

In its resolution 1996/41, the Council also requested the regional commissions to continue undertaking their own reviews, as called for in Assembly

resolution 50/227, and to report to the Council at its substantive session of 1997.

At its substantive session of 1997, informal open-ended consultations were held on the role, working methods and relationship with other bodies of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Committee for Development Planning, the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and on Energy for Development, and the Committee on Natural Resources. The Council decided to continue further consultations on the matter and, in its decision 1997/311, decided to continue consideration of this item at its resumed substantive session.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227 (A/52/155-E/1997/68)

Report of the Secretary-General containing a comprehensive assessment of the present arrangements for the sessions of the Economic and Social Council (A/52/155/Add.1-E/1997/68/Add.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly in the economic, social and related fields (E/1996/97)

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the mandates, composition, functions and working methods of the functional commissions and expert groups and bodies of the Economic and Social Council (E/1996/97/Add.1)